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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9098
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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECOSOC
SUBJECT: 63RD ECOSOC: GENERAL DEBATE

1. GENERAL DEBATE SPEAKERS IN PLENARY MORNING JULY 8 WERE FAO, DENMARK ON BEHALF OF EEC, UK, US, POLAND AND THE PHILIPPINES.

2. FAO - DIRGEN SAOUMA GAVE A GENERAL VIEW OF THE WORLD AGRICULTURAL SITUATION. HE WANED THAT NIEO REMAINS UNATTAINABLE BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE AN ESSENTIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF A DISAPPOINTING FOOD PRODUCTION SITUATION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY (1) ESTABLSHING MORE FAVORABLE TRADING CONDITIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON WORLD MARKETS. AND (2) INCREASING THE FLOW OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS.

3. EEC - DENMARK, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE EUREPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, CALLED CIEC AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE CONTINUATION OF THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE, AND SAID THAT EEC FELT THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN A NUMBER OF AREAS. HE PLEDGED THE EEC'S FULL COOPERATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CIEC AGEEMENTS.
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IN ASSESSING THE IMPLENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE, HE SAID THAT IT WAS THE DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES WHICH MUST RECEIVE THE GREATEST ATTENTION DURING THE REMAINING PART OF THE DECADE. THE MOST IMPORTANT IDEAS TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, ALONG WITH NIEO, ARE BASIC NEEDS AND COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE. THE IDEA THAT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS SHOULD FOCUS ON MEETING THE BASIC NEEDS OF THE POOR

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MASSES IS CENTRAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT POLICY OF THE EEC. HE RE-
MINED ECOSOC THAT THE EEC HA SONSISTENTLY FOUGHT RESTRICTIONS
ON FREE TRADE, SAYING "THERE HAS BEEN NO RETREAT INTO PROTECTION-
ISM." GREAT IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED TO THE GATT-MULTILATERAL
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE EEC COMMITTEE ITSELF TO GIVING THE
NEGOTIATIONS NEW IMPETUS TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL
PROGRESS.IFINALLY, THE EEC PLANS TO CONTINUE ITS CONTRIBUTION
TO THE RESTRUCTURING OF ECOSOC. GOALS OF THIS RESTRUCTURING
EFFORT SHOULD BE IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS, TO INITIATE
NEW POLICIES IN THESE SECTORS, AND TO IMPLEMENT THE CONCEPT OF
INTERDEPENDENCE.

4. UNITED KINGDOM - AMBASSADOR IVOR RICHARD SPOKE ON RESTRUC-
TURING OF THE UN AND ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE LDCS. THE
RESTRUCTURING PROCESS SHOULD TAKE TREE MAJOR STEPS: 1) ENHACE-
MENT OF THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ECOSOC, 2) STRENGTHENING
OF RESEARCH FNA ANALYTICAL CAPABILITIES OF THE UN SECRETARIAT,
AND 3) MAKING THE UN A MORE EFFICIENT MECHANISM FOR THE FLOW OF
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THUS UK IS "PREPARED TO SUPPORT RADICAL
PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE." HE SAID THAT ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS MADE
SINCE THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE SHOULD CONCENTRATE PARTICU-
LARLY ON THE "THREE YEARS SINCE THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION" IN AN
APPARENT BOW TO THE NIEO. ECONOMCI ASSISTANCE, HE SAID MUST
CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPMENT BUT ALSO, AND MORE FUNDAMENTALLY, ON
MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. THE UK CONCERNS ITSELF WITH ECONOMIC
STANDARDS OF HUMAN EXISTANCE, BUT ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT HUMAN
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RIGHTS INCLUDE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. HE
SAID, "BRITAINS POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ... IS BASED ON THE
BELIEF THAT THERE ARE VALUES OF UNIVERSAL VALIDITY WITHOUT WHICH
NO SOCIETY CAN BE JUDGED TO BE HUMANE, TOLERANT, AND DEMOCRATIC."
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST ADOPT MORE PRAGMATIC APPROACHES
IN ASSESSING THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS
NECESSITATES BASING DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR INDIVIDUAL
COUNTRIES ON THE ASSESSMENTS OF THEIR OWN NEEDS BY THOSE COUNTRIES.

5. US - PERMREP ANDREW YOUNG DELIVERED THE US STATEMENT (SEPTEL).

6. POLAND - POLAND EXPRESED SUPPORT FOR NIEO AND CALLED ECONOM-
IC INDEPENDENCE INDISPENSABLE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE. TH RE-
SULTS SO FAR OF THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE HAVE PROVED DIS-
APPOINTING TO POLAND, AND CIEC HAS ADDED TO THIS DISAPPOINTMENT.
THE REPRESENTATIVE ATTACKED TRADE RESTRICTIONS UNFAVORABLE TO
DEVELOPMENT IN THE THIRD WORLD, AND ASKED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY "COUNTER THE RISING WAVE OF PROTECTIONISM."

7. PHILIPPINES PRESENTATION - THE PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATIVE
PRESENTED THE FIRST CATALOGUE OF FAILURES BY AN LDC, NOTING
GENERAL FAILURE TO REACH ODA TARGETS Y MOST OF THE DCS, MOUNT-

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ING DEBT PROBLEMS OF THE NON-OIL EXPORTING LDCS,IFAILURE OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES AND THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS TO MAKA ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. HE NOTED AS ENCOURAGING POINTS THE PROGRESS ON THE ELABORATION OF THE CODE FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS, THE MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE LAMENTED LITTLE PROGRESS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS, AND THE FAILURE OF THE MTNS TO DO ANYTHING FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. GSP HE CHARACTERIZED AS SERIOUSLY NEEDING IMPROVEMENT BEFORE IT COULD BECOME OF ANY SIGNIFCANT VALUE TO LDCS. CIEC ONLY IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS; SOLUTIONS WERE STILL TO BE FOUND.IALL NEGOTIATIONS HE CHARACTERIZED AS BEING STYMIED BY "POWERFUL FORCES" FOR THE STATUS QUO. HE STATED HIS GOVERNMENT, AS HAD ALL OIL IMPORTERS, HAS HAD TO MOVE INTO GREAT SELF-RELIANCE AND REGIONAL AND SUB-
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REGIONAL COLLECTIVE EFFORTS SUCH AS THOSE THAT CHARACTERIZED THE ASEAN COUNTRIES. AFTER A PASSING ENDORESMENT OF THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS CONCEPT, HE CONCLUDED HIS STATEMENT BY ENDORSING SYG WALDHEIM'S CALL FOR AN ENERGY FORUM IN THE UN.SORENSON

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: 63RD ECOSOC: GENERAL DEBATE
TAGS: PORG, ECOSOC
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